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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	<b>Application Number</b>	10/622,399	
	<b>Filing Date</b>	07/18/2003	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Haermeyer	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1761	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	C. Sherrer	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	3241-57-1 (D4695-00110)

<b>ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):  return postcard
<b>Remarks</b>		

<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>	
Firm or Individual name	Stephan P. Gribok
Signature	<i>Stephan Gribok</i>
Date	Jan. 29, 2004

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b>			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: 1-29-04			
Typed or printed name	Stephan P. Gribok		
Signature	<i>Stephan Gribok</i>	Date	Jan. 29, 2004

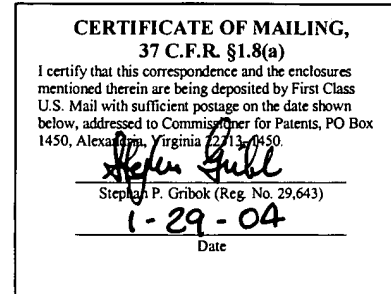


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/622,399  
Applicant : Thomas Haermeyer, et al.  
Filed : July 18, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 1761  
Docket No. : 3241-57-1 (D4695-00110)  
Customer No. : 08933

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Enclosed herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 CFR. §1.56 in connection with the above-identified application, which statement is being filed:

☐ Together with the present application.

☒ Before the first Office Action on the merits or three (3) months from the filing date of this application, whichever occurs last. [37 CFR § 1.97(b)]

☐ After the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first. [37 CFR §1.97(c)]. *(Either the fee or certification is provided, as set forth below).*

☐ After a Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, but prior to or with payment of the Issue Fee. [37 CFR §1.97(d)]. *The fee and certification are provided, as set forth below).*

Consistent with Applicant's obligations pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, the following requirements have been met:

☒ No separate requirements are needed.

☒ No additional fee is required.

**Fee Under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) or 1.97(d)**

☐ The fee of \$180.00 for submission of an IDS under §1.97(c) as set forth in §1.17(p) accompanies this statement.

**Certification Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)**

The undersigned certifies:

☐ 1 that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

☐ 2 that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

**Provision of Copies of References**

☐ A copy of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.

☐ A translation of Reference \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.

☐ A copy of the German Search Report from a corresponding or related German application is enclosed herewith.

☐ A copy of the International Search Report from a corresponding or related PCT application is enclosed herewith.

**Identification of Prior Application(s) In Which Listed Information Was Already Cited And For Which No Copies Are Submitted Or Need Be Submitted**

☒ This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior U.S. Application No(s). 09/254,618, filed October 20, 1999. The following references were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application(s) and therefore are not required to be provided in this application:

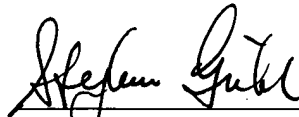
**PATENT**

[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1679.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

Jan. 29, 2004



\_\_\_\_\_  
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Attorney Docket No.: 3241-57-1 (D4695-00110)



PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. Department of Commerce

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT***(use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet 1 of 1

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
3241-57-1 (D4695-00110)APPLICATION NO.  
10/622,399FIRST NAMED APPLICANT  
Haermeyer

EXAMINER

FILING DATE  
July 18, 2003

GROUP: 1761

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	5,683,732	Baxter, et al.	11/1997	
	AB	5,620,725	Jamieson, et al.	04/15/97	
	AC	5,609,038	Halimi	03/11/97	
	AD	5,552,168	Cameron-Price	09/03/96	
	AE	5,340,595	Cameron-Price	08/23/94	
	AF	3,856,138	Maekawa, et al.	12/24/74	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No.	Office	DOCUMENT NUMBER	COUNTRY	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
	AG		EP 448 200 A1	EPO	09/25/91		
	AH		WO 91/07326	PCT	05/30/91		
	AI		WO 95/08493	EPO	03/30/95		
	AJ		WO 95/00416	EPO	01/05/95		
	AK		WO 95/00415	EPO	01/05/95		
	AL		EP 0 227 213	EPO	07/01/87		
	AM		WO 93/04945	EPO	03/18/93		
	AN		EP 520 602 A1	EPO	12/30/92		
	AO		EP 577 284 B1	EPO	01/05/94		
	AP		WO 96/31409	PCT	10/10/96		
	AQ		EP 594 221	EPO	04/1997		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.